

**Minutes of the Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council
Executive Committee
February 9, 2009**

Judge Davis called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Present: Judge Mac Davis (Chair), Peter Schuler, Brad Schimel, Sam Benedict, Jim Dwyer.

Absent: Dan Vrakas.

Also present: Rebecca Luczaj, Mike Geise, Ryan Jurgens, Dave Krahn, Clara Daniels, Donn Hoffmann.

Approval of Minutes from January 12, 2009 Meeting

MOTION: Dwyer moved, Schuler second, to approve the minutes of January 12, 2009. Motion carried 5-0.

Update on the SAVIN-Vine Project

Giese said the WI Department of Corrections (DOC) received a two-year grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to create a statewide, automated system called State Automated Information Victim Notification (SAVIN) for providing victims and agencies with timely information via a toll-free telephone number or online about the location and custody status of criminal defendants and convicted offenders housed in WI jails. Updated information is downloaded every 15 minutes and no victim information will be in the system. The grant will fund equipment, installation and ongoing costs through July 2010. SAVIN is in place in 1,400 counties and 32 to 33 states in the U.S.

Giese said the plan is to get as many WI counties on board as soon as possible. Dane and Outagamie Counties already use the Vine system. There is no deadline to get involved but counties would get the best bang for the buck by joining as quickly as possible. The County Board will consider an ordinance on SAVIN February 24, 2009. It takes 45 to 60 days to get the system up and running once local approval is given.

Giese said he is concerned with continued funding for the program. The good thing is that the program will go away if no additional funding is found. There are no requirements to continue. The stronger the presence of the system, the easier it will be to find funding outside local budgets. Pamela Brandon, SAVIN Program Manager, is putting together a coalition to seek additional funding. Waukesha County's cost to run the program is relatively small at approximately \$20K. Future funding is a concern with the current budget and economic situation. No one wants to go through all the work to install and use the system to have it go away.

Review Draft of CJCC Formal Positions on Various Potential OWI Legislative Changes

Schimel said he has not finished drafting CJCC's position on potential OWI legislative changes. Krahn has been forwarding him bills daily for two weeks. It is challenging to boil all the materials into something concise. He will email the draft to committee members when it is done.

Davis said he will vote against all potential positions from the CJCC because he doesn't think the Council will be able to keep up with state legislation. Dwyer said there must be a basis of information to put together. What does it mean to our system? Where can the CJCC play a role as a decision-making body?

Krahn said it would be helpful to provide our legislators with facts, figures and opinions showing how pending legislation affects CJCC and Waukesha County.

Schimmel said he hasn't seen anything indicating the fiscal impact on counties from the new legislation. Our position should indicate that Waukesha County's jail, Courthouse and courtrooms are full and that new legislation may cause the county to change its strategic plan on when to replace the Courthouse. None of the new legislation mentions treatment. It's all about increasing fees, surcharges, time-served, etc.

Update on ATC Fee Workgroup Meeting

Luczaj distributed a handout titled Alcohol Treatment Court Fee Workgroup and Schuler discussed the contents. He said the ATC Fee Workgroup has met twice to discuss how to create ATC program sustainability after federal funding ends. The group came up with a workable proposal at the last meeting. The proposed model is a uniform fee/sliding fee scale system based on the HHS model developed by the state. The model also takes into account other court obligations. Fees can be reassessed at any time if income changes. The fee maximum would be \$50 per month per participant. The average stay per participant is 12 to 18 months with approximately 75 participants per year. HHS staff will determine monthly fees during the initial interview. WCS will track and collect the fees. The committee would like the plan to be ready for implementation on June 1, 2009. Schuler said the group plans to continue working and is looking for feedback.

Dwyer said the first year's revenues may not be as high as expected. Would the ability to pay influence who would be in the program? Schuler said no one would be barred from participating based on ability to pay. Participants may be determined indigent.

Davis said the revenues are very optimistic. He wonders if these fees will slow down fine collection in the courts. There will be a backlash if a substantial portion of participants can't afford the fees.

Schimmel asked has the workgroup considered doing a poll of past and current participants to see if a fee would have made a difference in their participation? Schuler said the current participants could be sampled. Schimmel said if people don't see the program as a benefit, they'll just do their time in jail. Schuler said that was considered. WCS has a lot of people who cannot pay the fee. Schimmel asked how much would it cost to collect fees?

Schimmel asked if there are sliding fees for Huber? Giese said there are not. People fall behind on fees and are encouraged to pay. He gets reports on the people released with a balance. The Courts are contacted requesting people be returned if their balances become too large.

Luczaj asked if the committee would like to see more models proposed? Davis said one model is fine for him.

Update on CJCC Strategic Planning Session

Luczaj distributed and reviewed a handout titled *Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Strategic Planning, May 18, 2009*. She said she contacted Jan Wilberg and she is available to facilitate the session on May 18, 2009. Luczaj recommended the session be held at WCTC, Retzer Nature Center or Steinhafel's. She asked the committee members for feedback on the location, invitees and agendas items.

The following ideas were given for possible invitees:

Members of CJCC subcommittees

ATC graduates

People from other communities.

Mike DeMares

Criminal justice professor

Ex-offenders

A member of MADD

County employee involved with fiscal events

Commissioner Martin Binn

Another WCS staff person

Davis recommended inviting 30 to 35 people with hopes of having 25 participants.

The following suggestions were given for possible agenda items:

CJCC plan

Strategic goals

Fiscal sustainability

Dwyer said a location close to the freeway would be nice for people coming from out of the area. He also suggested changing the event time to 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. with a working lunch to allow people time to take care of regular business.

Next CJCC Executive Committee Meeting:

- Monday, March 9, 2009 @ 8:30 am, Room C179

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 a.m.